

PG&E Community Connections

A PG&E News Update for Community Leaders

WORKING TO RESTORE POWER

Over the past several days, California has faced an unprecedented heat storm resulting in record-breaking temperatures and energy usage. This heat wave has placed great strain on Pacific Gas and Electric Company's system, causing some equipment failures and prolonged outages in some cases.

More than 960,000 customers have been affected since Saturday afternoon – largely concentrated in the East Bay and San Jose areas. At this point, our crews – by working around the clock – have restored power to more than 95 percent of our customers. Yet, with weather forecasts calling for continued high temperatures over the next several days, PG&E still has tremendous work to do with more than 1,000 outage locations remaining.

PG&E is mobilizing crews from throughout its service territory and hiring contract crews to restore power in the most efficient, effective and safe manner possible.

CONSERVATION IS KEY

While PG&E does not anticipate any supply shortfalls, conservation is vitally critical as the end of this heat storm is not in sight.

Some simple conservation tips include:

- Set Air Conditioning Thermostat at 78 or higher
- Cool with fans
- Draw the drapes
- Turn off unnecessary lights and appliances
- Use big appliances early in the day, or later at night
- Unplug “energy vampires” – electronics that use electricity whether in use or not – such as coffee pots, printers, fax machines, televisions, and video, DVD and CD machines.

Residential and business customers are asked to reduce usage during the peak hours of 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. PG&E urges its customers to take part in this call to action, and conserve electricity today. Conservation plays a key role in helping California balance the demand for energy with the available supply.

Additional details on energy conservation measures can be found at: www.pge.com or www.flexyourpower.org.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

PG&E is fully committed to leading this conservation charge and has already dispatched building engineers to its facilities around its service area to implement its mandatory conservation measures, which include:

- Setting its thermostats to 82 degrees
- Closing drapes, shades and shutters to keep the hot sun out
- Reducing office lighting
- Turning off large flat screen lobby monitors
- Turning off some copy and fax machines.

SAFETY

Please check on your neighbors – especially the elderly – to make sure that they take extra precautions to stay cool and safe. Tips include drinking plenty of water, wearing lightweight, light-colored clothing and avoiding strenuous activity. Additional details on heat-related illnesses can be found at:

www.redcross.org/article/0,1072,0_332_5447,00.html.

By making a simple phone call or knocking on one's door, we can all ensure that our friends, family and neighbors are doing well during this challenging period.

THANK YOU